

SPRING 2022

## *BTE Stage Management Scholarship*

RECIPIENT

Olivia Reamer

CITY: Elmhurst, IL



My name is Olivia Reamer and I am a 21 year-old student from Elmhurst. I've been taking classes at COD since this last spring, and I am hoping to finish my degree at another college in the area in the coming year or so. Before attending COD, I graduated from Timothy Christian High school in 2019 and studied History, Spanish, and Vocal Music as an Honors student at Taylor University before the pandemic hit. Although I'm not exactly sure what my plans are for the future and my career path, I have a wide variety of interests and areas of study that I'm currently pursuing, and I thought I could introduce myself by sharing some of these passions. One area that interests me and that I've continued to study at COD is History. I enjoy learning about different cultures and historical eras, especially focusing on the history of the arts, theatre, music, literature, fashion, and the everyday experiences of ordinary people in a given period. I'm very passionate about trying to understand different cultures and ways of life throughout the centuries, and I love writing and reading about the minute details of history, especially about eras like the Renaissance or in countries that I have a personal connection to such as Italy, where my family is from. This love of learning about different cultures also translates into a love of languages. I have been studying Spanish for several years now and have been trying to teach myself Italian off and on. In the future, I hope to hone my skills in these languages and hopefully learn more as I travel and explore different cultures and places. One of my favorite aspects about language is that it gives me the ability to connect to someone of a different culture or origin on a deeper level and explore different cultures from a new perspective. I also enjoy learning new languages to perform different songs and increase my vocal skills. In the past few years, my vocal lessons have required me to sing in English, Spanish, Italian, and even German, not to mention in a variety of styles, which has been extremely helpful and interesting. One of my favorite genres of music to perform, however, remains musical theatre. I have been performing in theatre in some capacity almost since birth, and it is one of my greatest passions in life. Whether singing, dancing, acting on stage or helping out behind the scenes with costumes, props, or (in the case of this scholarship) stage managing, theatre is something that holds a very special place in my heart and I hope to continue expanding my skills in all aspects of this area for the rest of my life. I am very excited for the opportunity to work with BTE, as it will be my first time stage managing and my first time working with a professional/equity company, and a wonderful way to round out my theatre experience.